**Safeguard duties on passenger car tyres imported from China**

2741. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conveyed to WTO its intention to impose safeguard duties on passenger car tyres imported from China;

(b) whether there has been rapid increase in the share of tyre imports from China which has caused market disruption for domestic producers; and

(c) if so, whether the Director General of Investigation has finalized its findings, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) On the complaint made by the domestic industry, the Directorate General of Safeguards has initiated investigation on 18th May, 2009 to determine whether there has been rapid increase in the share of passenger car tyre imports from China PR which has caused market disruption for domestic producers of passenger car tyres. The Directorate General of Safeguards has not finalized its recommendations in this regard.

**Status of tea gardens being run by TTCI**

†2742. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of tea gardens in the States of West Bengal and Assam which were being run by Tea Trading Corporations of India (TTCI) and have been undertaken by the Central Government later on;

(b) whether it is a fact that the TTCI has sold away Putung, Bha-Takbhar and Peshok to private owners;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the labourers of those gardens are deprived of gratuity, P.F., dues regarding daily attendances and other facilities provided to them under labour act until now; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The gardens of the Tea Trading Corporation of India (TTCI) were taken over by the Official Liquidator of the Hon'ble High Court at Kolkata in August, 2003.

(b) These gardens were then sold by the Official Liquidator of the Hon'ble High Court at Kolkata in early 2006.

(d) The provident fund dues etc. were deposited with the Provident Fund Commissioner prior to the gardens being closed due to unrest.

**Import of white asbestos**

2743. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.